

7/12/67

Dear Shirley,

Your letter postmarked the eight says what I believe to be correct. On Honest Joe, that is my recollection, although it has been too long since I read that testimony. It is also what Jones says. You are right on the assembling of the crowd, as I recall the little testimony on it and on the Negroes. You will also find I address this elliptically in the new book. What I did not know is that he had the one model stationwagon Edsel made.

I think you will soon be hearing from Dick Billings of LIFE. He is very interested in the entire assassination story, is on our side in his estimates and beliefs, is associate editor but does not influence policy except by persuasion. He and they are putting a lot of time and effort into it and are developing much very good information. They are in a position to buy what we cannot. They are working directly on a picture story for the fall on the unseen pictures. I have mentioned ~~xxx~~ to him that he should see you and he indicates he would like to. I recommend that if he is interested you let him have what tapes you have for copying. He may make me a set. I want "mine" more for the future than for now. Because they already have the Zapruder film and others and because if LIFE ever does come out thoroughly on our side it could be quite influential, I think it is also important that they have what we can give them. I have trusted him with some of my unpublished material. He is in New Orleans now for a few days. I have made mistakes in people, some rather glaring, but I nonetheless trust him and he has offered a certain kind of help to me. If you hear from him, this is the background.

Another possibility is this: if you trust your tapes to the mail, send them to me and let me get him to make copies if he is interested and after he knows what is there he can see you more efficiently. He is where notes are important. They can be read where minds cannot.

Sincerely,

Harold: Honest Joe may have said he was circling, but both Jean Hill and Joe Molina stated that Honest Joe was "parked" behind the stockage fence at about 12:15pm, moving out down the narrow Elm Street projection shortly before the President arrived.

WHY should Honest Joe move out at this time? Certainly WHY move out to a point east of Pacific? Unless, of course, the assassin was expected to exit from the north platform door of the TSBDB (as Worrell, now dead, claimed). Was Honest Joe's Edsel sufficient for a hideaway at that critical moment?

Honest Joe also says that he was not a particular friend of Ruby's, but this is ridiculous! Not only does Sorrell give this the lie in his testimony, but Honest Joe was recently named (in Dallas) to be one of three executors of Ruby's estate. Of course, Ruby and Joe were close friends.

Mrs. Arnold's statement is most interesting, since like you I am convinced Lee was on the first floor at the time of the assassination. Even examining the statements in WW3, one can see that witnesses to the President's parade route did not gather anywhere along the route (even at the most crowded areas) until 11:45am at the earliest! Thus, it is FANTASTIC to conclude as Jarman does that his conversation with Lee about the motorcade took place as early as 9:30am, November 22, 1963! There was no one, I repeat, no one gathering on the corners of Dealey Plaza as early as 9:30 or 10am that morning. This was a lightly populated area even at the peak of the crowd, since it was at the end of the motorcade route. Jarman's statement that people were gathering on these corners as early as 9:30am is completely irrational! I cannot understand why it is accepted without argument. Since I have no doubt the conversation took place, I also have no doubt that it took place as Oswald said about 12:05pm. Jarman will ~~not~~ crack in this regard. He is a Negro in Dallas, and we all know what this means. Or if he gives signs of cracking, he will be killed. Someone needs to approach him very quietly and subtly.

Joe Molina claims to be the man in suit standing next to Lovelady-Oswald figure in Altgens photo. My inclination is that Molina was lying about this. He was a frightened man when I spoke to him; I have always felt he had someone in the house the night I interviewed him, and that he had notified someone ahead of time that I was coming. He was in the process of buying a new home when I last talked to him. However, this could have been only an inference. I have no way to be positive. At any rate, he was leaving Brown Street. I do not know where he is now.

Your book is excellent. I am still reading. More later.
Appreciated your appreciation of your wife's hard work. This has been hard on her
Love,
S.